

L I Z
R O C H E
C O M P A N Y

Child Safeguarding Statement

13/11/2018

Name of organisation:

Rex Levitates Dance Company CLG, T/A Liz Roche Company, 69 Dame Street, Dublin 2

Liz Roche Company produces world-class contemporary dance works which on occasion will include some young people. We also engage in artform development programmes such as workshops, audience development programmes, talks and discussions which may include young people.

Here we set out the responsibilities of all employees, and freelance staff hired by Rex Levitates Dance Co CLG T/A Liz Roche Company with regard to the protection of children and young people when working with, or when brought into contact with, children and young people. In the context of child protection, children and young person refers to anyone under-18 years of age.

Given the nature of our industry and the interaction which takes place with various people such as staff, members of the public, contractors, freelancers, independent companies and visitors these guidelines will apply to all concerned.

The Board of Directors and staff of Liz Roche Company are fully committed to making sure that children and young people are protected and kept safe from harm while they are in contact with or working with the organisation. We recognise that we have a duty of care on occasions where children or young people, are working with the organisation.

We are committed to ensuring that the rights of children, young people, vulnerable adults and older people are respected and understood by the Board, core staff, freelance employees, artists, interns and volunteers who we work with, and that their welfare and health and safety is paramount. We take responsibility for ensuring good practice, appropriate policies and procedures and the fulfilment of our legal obligations in this area.

Policies and Procedures:

1. The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully the company's Child Protection Policy
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is: Moyra D'Arcy, Company Manager
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is: Liz Roche, Artistic Director
4. The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations are of the utmost importance when working with children and young people. LRC will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare. The company will:

- a. recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations when working on projects with children and young people.
- b. fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children
- c. fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters
- d. adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect
- e. fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters

The following procedures/measures are in place:

- a. In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child LRC adheres to the relevant procedures set out in **Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, Tulsa's Child Safeguarding; A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.**
- b. In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children or young people, LRC will ensure that any staff working directly with children and young people are Garda Vetted.
- c. In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary instruction and training to staff in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) LRC:
 - i. Will provide each member of staff permanent or casual (when working with young people) with a copy of the company's Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection Policy and ensure that they are aware that the spirit of that Policy as set out in the Child Safeguarding Statement as well as the precise wording of the detailed processes and procedures which should be observed at all times.
 - ii. Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
- d. The Board has appointed the above named DLP as the 'relevant person' (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the company's child safeguarding statement.

Risk Assessment

For the purposes of this Risk Assessment it is recognised that Liz Roche Company does not work with or come in to contact with young children. This Risk Assessment covers the occasional work which is done with young adults. It is recognised that at any time in the future the company was to plan projects with younger children a more specific separate risk assessment should be carried out.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
1	Non-compliance with LRC's Child Protection Policy	All LRC staff and volunteers who are working with children are provided with the Child Protection Policy. All breaches of the Child Protection Policy will be reported to the Company Manager. Staff and volunteers will be advised and inducted on any changes to the policy annually. The Child Protection Policy is reviewed every 2 years.
2	Receipt of complaint of alleged child abuse where an LRC staff member is the alleged perpetrator.	All staff know who the "Relevant Person" is, to whom the complaint should be brought. The "Relevant Person" will follow the relevant procedures set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, Tulsa's Child Safeguarding; A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice
3	Receipt of complaint of alleged child abuse where a parent, guardian, artist or facilitator is the alleged perpetrator.	All staff know who the "Relevant Person" is, to whom the complaint should be brought. The "Relevant Person" will follow the relevant procedures set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, Tulsa's Child Safeguarding; A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.
4	Young person makes a disclosure to a member of staff	All staff know who the "Relevant Person" is, to whom the complaint should be brought. The "Relevant Person" will follow the relevant procedures set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, Tulsa's Child Safeguarding; A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.
5	Risk of Physical injury to a young person.	Company insures that only young people with the necessary skills are included in the work and they are never pushed beyond their physical limits.
6	Use of photographic materials	Proper consents are sought from parents for the use of images of the young person in promotional and archival materials. The highest standards of proofing and editing are used to ensure that all images of young people are appropriate.
7	Supervision of young people while working with the company.	Specific staff members are tasked as supervisors. The company ensures that these staff members are properly vetted and informed. Young people are properly informed that they should not be working unless under the supervision of the designated supervisors. Both and staff and young people are properly informed that working with young people alone is to be avoided where practicable.

8	Dealing with difficult subject matter.	It is in the nature of contemporary art to deal with emotional issues and emotive subjects. The company ensure that relevant staff members are briefed and prepared to deal with any emotional triggers in the young people. Support and information on external support organisations will be made available to any effected young people.
9	Transport	Young people will make their own way to and from LRC events. All staff will be briefed that any transport (whether official or informal) will only be offered with the explicit consent and full knowledge of the young person's parent or guardian.

Implementation: We will review our guiding principles and child safeguarding procedures every two years or sooner if necessary due to service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.

Contact Information:

Liz Roche Company, 69 Dame Street Dublin 2

Tel: 01-6794962

www.lizrochecompany.com

Admin@lizrochecompany.com

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